



General Assembly

February Session, 2010

***Raised Bill No. 173***

LCO No. 863

\*00863\_\_\_\_\_CE\_\*

Referred to Committee on Commerce

Introduced by:  
(CE)

***AN ACT CONCERNING ACTION PLANS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF  
ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 32-1o of the 2010 supplement to the general  
2 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
3 (*Effective October 1, 2010*):

4 (a) On or before July 1, 2009, and every five years thereafter, the  
5 Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, within  
6 available appropriations, shall prepare an economic strategic plan for  
7 the state in consultation with the Secretary of the Office of Policy and  
8 Management, the Commissioners of Environmental Protection and  
9 Transportation, the Labor Commissioner, the executive directors of the  
10 Connecticut Housing Finance Authority, the Connecticut Development  
11 Authority, the Connecticut Innovations, Inc., the Commission on  
12 Culture and Tourism and the Connecticut Health and Educational  
13 Facilities Authority, and the president of the Office of Workforce  
14 Competitiveness, or their respective designees, and any other agencies  
15 the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development deems  
16 appropriate.

17 (b) In developing the plan, the Commissioner of Economic and  
18 Community Development shall:

19 (1) Ensure that the plan is consistent with (A) the text and locational  
20 guide map of the state plan of conservation and development, adopted  
21 pursuant to chapter 297, (B) the long-range state housing plan,  
22 adopted pursuant to section 8-37t, and (C) the transportation strategy  
23 adopted pursuant to section 13b-57g;

24 (2) Consult regional councils of governments, regional planning  
25 organizations, regional economic development agencies, interested  
26 state and local officials, entities involved in economic and community  
27 development, stakeholders and business, economic, labor, community  
28 and housing organizations;

29 (3) Consider (A) regional economic, community and housing  
30 development plans, and (B) applicable state and local workforce  
31 investment strategies;

32 (4) Assess and evaluate the economic development challenges and  
33 opportunities of the state and against the economic development  
34 competitiveness of other states and regions; and

35 (5) Host regional forums to provide for public involvement in the  
36 planning process.

37 (c) The strategic plan required under this section shall include, but  
38 not be limited to, the following:

39 (1) A review and evaluation of the economy of the state. Such  
40 review and evaluation shall include, but not be limited to, a sectoral  
41 analysis, housing market and housing affordability analysis, labor  
42 market and labor quality analysis, demographic analysis and include  
43 historic trend analysis and projections;

44 (2) A review and analysis of factors, issues and forces that impact or  
45 impede economic development and responsible growth in Connecticut

46 and its constituent regions. Such factors, issues or forces shall include,  
47 but not be limited to, transportation, including, but not limited to,  
48 commuter transit, rail and barge freight, technology transfer,  
49 brownfield remediation and development, health care delivery and  
50 costs, early education, primary education, secondary and  
51 postsecondary education systems and student performance, business  
52 regulation, labor force quality and sustainability, social services costs  
53 and delivery systems, affordable and workforce housing cost and  
54 availability, land use policy, emergency preparedness, taxation,  
55 availability of capital and energy costs and supply;

56 (3) Identification and analysis of economic clusters that are growing  
57 or declining within the state;

58 (4) An analysis of targeted industry sectors in the state that (A)  
59 identifies those industry sectors that are of current or future  
60 importance to the growth of the state's economy and to its global  
61 competitive position, (B) identifies what those industry sectors need  
62 for continued growth, and (C) identifies, those industry sectors current  
63 and potential impediments to growth;

64 (5) A review and evaluation of the economic development structure  
65 in the state, including, but not limited to, (A) a review and analysis of  
66 the past and current economic, community and housing development  
67 structures, budgets and policies, efforts and responsibilities of its  
68 constituent parts in Connecticut; and (B) an analysis of the  
69 performance of the current economic, community and housing  
70 development structure, and its individual constituent parts, in meeting  
71 its statutory obligations, responsibilities and mandates and their  
72 impact on economic development and responsible growth in  
73 Connecticut;

74 (6) Establishment and articulation of a vision for Connecticut that  
75 identifies where the state should be in five, ten, fifteen and twenty  
76 years;

77 (7) Establishment of clear and measurable goals and objectives for  
78 the state and regions, to meet the short and long-term goals established  
79 under this section and provide clear steps and strategies to achieve  
80 said goals and objectives, including, but not limited to, the following:  
81 (A) The promotion of economic development and opportunity, (B) the  
82 fostering of effective transportation access and choice including the use  
83 of airports and ports for economic development, (C) enhancement and  
84 protection of the environment, (D) maximization of the effective  
85 development and use of the workforce consistent with applicable state  
86 or local workforce investment strategy, (E) promotion of the use of  
87 technology in economic development, including access to high-speed  
88 telecommunications, and (F) the balance of resources through sound  
89 management of physical development;

90 (8) Prioritization of goals and objectives established under this  
91 section;

92 (9) Establishment of relevant measures that clearly identify and  
93 quantify (A) whether a goal and objective is being met at the state,  
94 regional, local and private sector level, and (B) cause and effect  
95 relationships, and provides a clear and replicable measurement  
96 methodology;

97 (10) Recommendations on how the state can best achieve goals  
98 under the strategic plan and provide cost estimates for implementation  
99 of the plan and the projected return on investment for those areas;

100 (11) A review and evaluation of the operation and efficacy of the  
101 urban jobs program established pursuant to sections 32-9i to 32-9l,  
102 inclusive, enterprise zones established pursuant to section 32-70,  
103 railroad depot zones established pursuant to section 32-75a, qualified  
104 manufacturing plants designated pursuant to section 32-75c,  
105 entertainment districts established pursuant to section 32-76 and  
106 enterprise corridor zones established pursuant to section 32-80. The  
107 review and evaluation of enterprise zones shall include an analysis of  
108 enterprise zones that have been expanded to include an area in a

109 contiguous municipality or in which there are base or plant closures;  
110 and

111 (12) Any other responsible growth information that the  
112 commissioner deems appropriate.

113 (d) On or before July 1, 2009, and every five years thereafter, the  
114 Commissioner of Economic and Community Development shall  
115 submit an economic development strategic plan for the state to the  
116 Governor for approval. The Governor shall review and approve or  
117 disapprove such plan not more than sixty days after submission. The  
118 plan shall be effective upon approval by the Governor or sixty days  
119 after the date of submission.

120 (e) Upon approval, the commissioner shall submit the economic  
121 development strategic plan to the joint standing committees of the  
122 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce,  
123 planning and development, appropriations and the budgets of state  
124 agencies and finance, revenue and bonding. Not later than thirty days  
125 after such submission, the commissioner shall post the plan on the web  
126 site of the Department of Economic and Community Development.

127 (f) The commissioner from time to time, may revise and update the  
128 strategic plan upon approval of the Governor. The commissioner shall  
129 post any such revisions on the web site of the Department of Economic  
130 and Community Development.

131 (g) (1) On or before January 1, 2011, and annually thereafter, the  
132 Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, within  
133 available appropriations, shall prepare a one-year action plan based  
134 upon the strategic plan required pursuant to subsection (a) of this  
135 section, which shall identify (A) the priority for the implementation of  
136 any goal or objective identified in said strategic plan, and (B) the  
137 agency or organization responsible for any goal or objective identified  
138 as a priority.

139     (2) On or before January 1, 2011, and annually thereafter, the  
 140     Commissioner of Economic and Community Development shall  
 141     submit the one-year action plan to the Governor for approval. The  
 142     Governor shall review and approve or disapprove such plan not more  
 143     than twenty days after submission. The plan shall be effective upon  
 144     approval by the Governor or twenty days after the date of submission.

145     (3) Upon approval, the commissioner shall submit the one-year  
 146     action plan, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the  
 147     joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance  
 148     of matters relating to commerce, planning and development,  
 149     appropriations and the budgets of state agencies and finance, revenue  
 150     and bonding. Not later than thirty days after such submission, the  
 151     commissioner shall post said plan on the web site of the Department of  
 152     Economic and Community Development.

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| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: |  |  |
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| Section 1 | <i>October 1, 2010</i> | 32-1o |
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***Statement of Purpose:***

To require that the Commissioner of the Department of Economic and Community Development present an annual report containing immediate priorities for the strategic long-term growth of Connecticut.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*